Port Construction by China

†2929. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that China is secretly engaged in the construction of a port near one of the busiest sea ways of the world, Hanbantota, situated off the southern coast of Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has approached Government of Sri Lanka with regard to this constitution; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the development of Hanbantota Port being undertaken in Southern Sri Lanka with Chinese assistance, the contract for which was finalised in March, 2007.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian policy towards Pakistan

2930. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan's President admitted Pak nurtured terrorism and has admitted that Islamabad made tactical use of militancy against India;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan even now accused India for not cooperating with 26/11 inquiry report on terrorism;

(c) whether in spite of this India and Pakistan have set a stage for fresh engagement;

(d) if so, whether a new strategy has been adopted by Prime Minister to deal with Pakistan so that its territory is not used against India and further negotiations continue between two countries;

(e) if so, whether there is a change of policy towards Pakistan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) Government has seen reports in which the President of Pakistan has said that militants and extremists were deliberately created and nurtured by Pakistan as a policy to achieve some short-term tactical objectives while talking to a gathering of former civil servants in Islamabad on 07 July, 2009.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Pakistan handed over a dossier giving an update of the investigation conducted by them on 11th July, 2009. PM met the Prime Minister of Pakistan in Sharm-El-Sheikh on 16th July, 2009 where the Prime Minister of Pakistan assured that Pakistan will do everything in its power to bring the perpetrators of the Mumbai attack to justice.

(c) PM conveyed to the Prime Minister of Pakistan in the said meeting on 16th July, 2009 that sustained, effective and credible action needs to be taken not only to bring the perpetrators of the Mumbai attack to justice, but also to shut down the operations of terrorist groups to prevent any future attacks. Both leaders agreed to work to create an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence.

(d) to (f) It has been and remains our consistent position that the starting point of any meaningful dialogue with Pakistan is a fulfilment of their commitment, in letter and spirit, not to allow their territory to be used in any manner for terrorist activities against India.

Poverty alleviation

2931. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the poverty alleviation made during the last four years compared to Andhra Pradesh, State-wise;

(b) the amount allocated and spent in Andhra Pradesh, year-wise; and

(c) the funding of Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank in Andhra Pradesh for the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Ministry of Housing Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing an employment oriented Urban Poverty Alleviation Centrally sponsored scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, with effect from 1.12.1997. The scheme strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and under employed poor, through encouraging the setting up of self employment ventures by the urban poor living below the poverty line, and also through providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. The scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) has been comprehensively revamped with effect from 2009-2010.

The number of beneficiaries under the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) during the last four years (*i.e.* 2005-06 to 2008-09, cumulative), State-wise, including the State of Andhra Pradesh are at Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Central funds released to Andhra Pradesh and expenditure reported by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh through Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) since inception of the scheme year-wise is as under:—